

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 7-11 are amended by this response.

Claims 2 - 5 have been previously amended.

Claim 6 is cancelled by this response.

New claim 12 is added by this response.

B³ 1. (Currently Amended) A device for detecting the position of a selector lever, in which the selector lever is connected to a device that emits a signal to an evaluation device in a desired position of the selector lever, wherein the selector lever (1) is connected to a first diaphragm (2, 3) (2) and a second diaphragm (3), said first and second diaphragms (2,3) arranged in the a beam path between an optical transmitter (18) and an optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), ✓ the diaphragm⁽⁵⁾ (2, 3), which follows movement of the selector lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15), wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1).

2. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 1, wherein there is a said optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever (1) to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm⁽⁵⁾ (2,

*each
which
and one*

3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) when the selector lever (1) is moved.

3. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) are arranged in a fixed manner on a carrier element (8) in accordance with sequence of motion of the selector lever (1).

4. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein the evaluation device (15) connected to the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) is arranged on said carrier element (8).

5. (previously amended) The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one said optical transmitter (18) is arranged on the carrier element (8), an optical signal of which is deviatable onto the diaphragm (2, 3) by a light guide.

LA since only one claim

→ which one?

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

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7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 6 1, wherein the diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one another.

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9. (Currently Amended) The device as
claimed in claim ⁸7, wherein the second ~~of said diaphragms~~
diaphragm (3), follows the selector lever (1) in an approximately
vertical direction (y), and has two optically transparent
openings (6, 7), vertical movement of the selector lever (1)
being converted into a circular-arc-like movement of the
diaphragm (3).

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8. (Currently Amended) The device as
claimed in claim 5, wherein the light guide ~~covers~~ is provided to
cover an extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the
optical signal over the ~~diaphragms~~ first and second diaphragms
(2, 3).

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A device as
~~claimed in claim 2, for detecting the position of a selector~~
lever, in which the selector lever is connected to a device that
emits a signal to an evaluation device in a desired position of
the selector lever, wherein the selector lever (1) is connected
to first diaphragm (2) and a second diaphragm (3), said first and
second diaphragms (2,3) arranged in a beam path between an
optical transmitter (18) and an optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12,
13, 14), the diaphragm (2, 3), which follows movement of the
selector lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired
position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the
optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from
the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation
device (15),

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wherein there is a said optical receiver
(9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever
✓ (1) to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm
(2, 3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13,
14) when the selector lever (1) is moved, and

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one on
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wherein there is one said diaphragm (2,
3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1).

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11. (Currently Amended) The device as
claimed in claim 5, wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3)
for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1), the
diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one
another, the second of said diaphragms (3) follows the selector
lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y) and has two
optically transparent said openings (6, 7), vertical movement of
the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc like
movement of the diaphragm (3), and the light guide covers an
extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical
signal over the diaphragms (2, 3).

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12. (New) A device for detecting the
position of a selector lever, in which the selector lever is
connected to a device that emits a signal to an evaluation device
in a desired position of the selector lever, wherein the selector
lever (1) is connected to first diaphragm (2) and a second
diaphragm (3), said first and second diaphragms (2,3) arranged in
the beam path between an optical transmitter (18) and an optical
receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14), the diaphragm (2, 3), which

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and
follows movement of the selector lever (1), being optically transparent in the desired position of the selector lever (1), as a result of which the optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) receives the signal from the optical transmitter (18) and transmits it to the evaluation device (15),

wherein there is a said optical receiver (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) for each position of the selector lever (1) to be determined, and an opening (5, 6, 7) in the diaphragm (2, 3) is moved over the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) when the selector lever (1) is moved, which one or each

wherein the optical receivers (9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14) are arranged in a fixed manner on a carrier element (8) in accordance with sequence of motion of the selector lever (1), and

wherein there is one said diaphragm (2, 3) for each direction of motion of the selector lever (1), the diaphragms (2, 3) are movable in mechanical isolation from one another, the second of said diaphragms (3) follows the selector lever (1) in an approximately vertical direction (y) and has two optically transparent said openings (6, 7), vertical movement of the selector lever (1) being converted into a circular-arc like movement of the diaphragm (3), and the light guide is provided to cover an extended area to ensure uniform distribution of the optical signal over the diaphragms (2, 3). LA
